





## RESIDENTIAL UTILITY CONSUMER OFFICE

www.azruco.gov

1110 WEST WASHINGTON · SUITE 220 · PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007 · PHONE: (602) 364-4835 · FAX: (602) 364-4846

Douglas A. Ducey Governor

David P. Tenney Director

July 23, 2015

Susan Bitter Smith, Chairman Bob Stump, Commissioner Bob Burns, Commissioner Doug Little, Commissioner Tom Forese, Commissioner

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Arizona Corporation Commission

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

RE:

Resource Planning and Procurement, Docket Nos. E-00000V-15-0094;

E-00000V-13-0070

## Dear Commissioners:

On July 9, 2015, Commissioner Bob Burns submitted a letter seeking stakeholder input on process and timing around the upcoming utility IRP plans. Attached to the letter was a proposed timeline and task list.

RUCO appreciates the leadership of Commissioner Bob Burns and Commissioner Doug Little on this very important issue. The process outlined in Commissioner Burns' July 9<sup>th</sup> letter corresponds nicely with RUCO's expectations and hopes around having a more robust IRP process. More input from stakeholders and data gathering from parties will improve the process and better inform important planning decisions. RUCO would like to work with Commission Staff and stakeholders to further refine and add more definition around a number of the steps listed within the nine step process. For example, RUCO would like to discuss the added analyses/data gathering expected of the Commission consultant, additional resource modeling possibilities by the utilities, and the format of workshops. That said, the timeline proposed for each task looks reasonable and achievable.

Finally, RUCO would also like to reinforce the concept that the utility will still be putting forward their recommended course of action. While it will be true that more scenarios and assumptions are being considered and modeled, that does not mean the utility loses their autotomy in putting forward the traditional utility "selected" portfolio.

Again, RUCO thanks the Commission for their work on improving the IRP process. Onerous regulations and the continued advancement of new energy technologies require all stakeholders to work together to ensure negative impacts to ratepayers are minimized and potential benefits are maximized.

Sincerely,

David P. Tenney

Director

cc: Docket Control

All Parties of Record